

VIA FACSIMILE (703) 872-9306

9D-RG-19394-Daum
PATENTIN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A system for updating a first set of information including a time and a date of one of a plurality of electronic devices within the system, the system comprisingcomprising:

a communications network being coupled to each of said electronic devices within said network, wherein each of at least two of said electronic devices has a time and date set feature capable of being set by a user, wherein ~~any one~~one of said at least two electronic devices is configured to communicate the ~~time and date set feature~~updated first set of information to any respective electronic device after having received a set instruction configured to automatically set a first clock within ~~any one~~the one of said at least two electronic devices, wherein said first clock is automatically set when a change in the time occurs, ~~and any~~the one of said at least two electronic devices is configured to communicate the ~~time and date set feature~~updated first set of information until remaining of said electronic devices within the communications network have ~~been set~~been set, and

a first communications module configured to interrupt a first program executed by a microprocessor within the remaining of said electronic devices, wherein said first program is separate from a second program configured to update a second clock within the remaining of said electronic devices when the updated first set of information is received by the remaining of said electronic devices.

2. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said communications network ~~comprises a~~comprises a second communications module which utilizes standard communications protocol to communicate ~~time and date set data~~the updated first set of information between said electronic devices within said communications network.

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3. (original) The system as recited in claim 2, wherein said communications network comprises a Programmable Logic Controller.
4. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said time and date set feature is a time code.
5. (original) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said time and date feature is a date code.
6. (currently amended) A process for updating a time code and a date code of one of a plurality of electronic devices within a communications network, wherein each ~~device~~ of said electronic devices comprises a microprocessor, a communications module, memory, and a key pad, the process comprising the following steps:
- reading the time code from the memory;
 - sending the time code to the communications module;
 - reading the date code from the memory;
 - sending the date code to the communications module;
 - sending time and date information from the communications module to all of the electronic devices within the network; and
 - notifying the communications ~~module of a~~ module that at least one of the time and date code is to be transmitted to the communications module before at least one of the time and date code is transmitted to the communications module.
7. (currently amended) The process as recited in claim 6, further comprising the step of reading the time and date information from the memory upon execution of a clock setting routine.

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8. (currently amended) The process as recited in claim 6, further comprising the step of reading the time and date information from the memory after a clock set keypad entry function has been initiated.

9. (currently amended) The process as recited in claim 6, further comprising the step of reading the time and date information from the memory after the communications module transmits an interrupt signal to the microprocessor.

10. (original) The process as recited in claim 7, wherein said time and date information is a time code.

11. (original) The process as recited in claim 7, wherein said time and date information is a date code.

12. (currently amended) An apparatus for updating a time variable of one of a plurality of appliances within a communications network having a communications controller, wherein the time variable comprises a time code and a date code, the apparatus comprising:

means for reading the time variable;

means for sending the time code to the communications module;

means for sending the date code to the communications module;

means for sending the time variable from the communications module to the appliances on the network; and

means for notifying the communications ~~module of a~~ module that at least one of the time and date code is to be transmitted to the communications module before at least one of the time and date code is transmitted to the communications module.

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13. (currently amended) A system for updating a time and a date of one of a plurality of appliances within the system, the system comprising:

a communications network being coupled to each of said appliances within said ~~network;~~
~~and network,~~ wherein each of at least two of said appliances has a time and date set feature capable of being set by ~~a user;~~ a user, wherein any one of said at least two appliances is configured to ~~communicate a time and date set function~~ the updated time and date to all ~~respective~~ remaining of said appliances within the network after having received a set instruction configured to automatically set a first clock within any one of said at least two appliances, wherein said clock is automatically set when a change in ~~the time occurs;~~ occurs; and

a first communications module configured to interrupt a first program executed by a microprocessor within the remaining of said appliances, wherein said first program is separate from a second program configured to update a second clock within the remaining of said appliances when the updated time and date is received by the remaining of said appliances.

14. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said communications network comprises a second communications module which utilizes standard communications protocol to communicate time and date set data between said appliances within said communications network.

15. (original) The system as recited in claim 14, wherein said communications network comprises at least two Programmable Logic Controllers.

16. (original) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said time and date set feature is a time code.

17. (original) The system as recited in claim 13, wherein said time and date feature is a date code.

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18. (currently amended) A system for updating a time code and a date code of an appliance within a communications network comprising a plurality of appliances, wherein each appliance comprises a microprocessor, a communications module, memory, and a key pad, the system comprising:

means for reading the time code from the memory;

means for sending the time code to the communications module;

means for reading the date code from the memory;

means for sending the date code to the communications module;

means for ~~the communications module~~ sending time and date information to the appliances with the network; and

means for notifying the communications ~~module of a~~ module that least one of the time and date code is to be transmitted to the communications module before at least one of the time and date code is transmitted to the communications module.

19. (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 18, further comprising means for reading the time and date information from the memory upon execution of a clock setting routine.

20. (currently amended) The system as recited in claim 18, further comprising means for reading the time and date information from the memory after a clock set keypad entry function has been initiated.

21. (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 1 wherein said change in time comprises a change from a standard to a daylight savings time.

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22. (previously presented) The system as recited in claim 1 wherein said clock is automatically set when a brown-out condition occurs.